

Subject: irradiated foods

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DOCKET #98N-1038

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

Food and Drug Administration

5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061

Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Irradiated Food Labels

Following are my concerns, best worded by Eric Johnson's words on :

All food products that have been irradiated, or which include any ingredients that have been irradiated, must be prominently labeled with a declaration of this fact, to include 'IRRADIATED PRODUCT' or 'INGREDIENTS EXPOSED TO GAMMA RADIATION' and a logo that clearly indicates that the product has been irradiated. This label must be prominently shown on the main panel of the product's labeling.

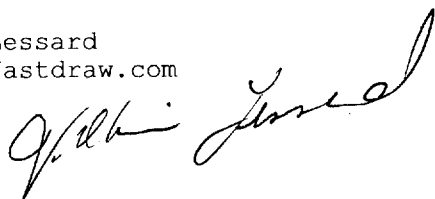
The existing 'radura' logo is inadequate because it is not an icon that clearly in pictorial form that the product has been exposed to gamma radiation. The logo must clearly communicate this in pictorial form. The existing logo could still be used if an additional icon/logo is added that communicates in pictorial form that the product has been exposed to gamma radiation.

The declaration that the food is irradiated must be more prominent than the ingredient list. For unpackaged products (e.g. irradiated pineapple from Hawaii), there must be a prominent poster located with the product that very prominently indicates that the product has been irradiated.

Euphemistic wording, such as 'cold pasteurized' or 'electronic pasteurization' are not acceptable alternatives to explicitly using the words 'IRRADIATED PRODUCT' or 'INGREDIENTS EXPOSED TO GAMMA RADIATION,' and must not be allowed.

The declaration that the product has been irradiated or contains ingredients exposed to gamma radiation must be present even if only very small amounts of spices or other ingredients are the only parts of the product that have been irradiated.

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